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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/008,296	11/13/2001	Gholam A. Peyman	PMAN-17	2702

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EXAMINER

FARAH, AHMED M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3739

8

DATE MAILED: 12/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/008,296

Applicant(s)

PEYMAN, GHOLAM A.

Examiner

Ahmed M Farah

Art Unit

3739

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17-24, 26 and 27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-16 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 1, 4, 5. 6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Claims 17-24, 26, and 27 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected inventions, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in Paper No. 7.

Oath/Declaration

The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because: it is not signed .

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-7, 9-15, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mori et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,633,275.

As to claims 1-3, 9-11 and 25 Mori et al. (*hereafter US Pat. '275*) disclose phototherapeutic methods for treating or alleviating macular degeneration characterized by fluid leakage from neovascularization /new blood vessel proliferation in the macula of a patient, the methods comprising the steps of: providing an effective amount of a photosensitive agent to the blood vessel; activating the blood vessel with a low energy light to damage the vessel; and directing to the macula a high energy light sufficient to generate heat to coagulate the fluid leakage as presently claimed (see column 7, line 46 to column 8, line 2).

As to claims 5 and 12, *US Pat. '275* teaches the use of Npe6 as the photosensitive agent (see column 4, line 53).

As to claims 5 and 13, *US Pat. '275* teaches the use of laser power and radiation intensity as presently claimed (see column 6, lines 43-46).

As to claims 6 and 14, *US Pat. '275* uses an argon laser to provide the treatment energy (see column 7, line 65).

As to claims 7 and 15, *US Pat. '275* teaches that the spot sizes is in the range of about 500 um as presently claimed (see column 7, line 59).

Claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 10, 12, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Guyer U.S. 2003/0171320 A1.

Guyer discloses phototherapeutic methods for treating or alleviating macular degeneration characterized by fluid leakage from new blood vessel proliferation in the

macula of a patient, the methods comprising the steps of: providing an effective amount of a photosensitive agent to the blood vessel; activating the blood vessel with a low energy light to damage the vessel; and directing to the macula a high energy light sufficient to generate heat to coagulate the fluid leakage as presently claimed. See claims 1-3 of Guyer.

As to claims 5 and 12, *Guyer teaches* the use of protoporphyrin as the photosensitive agent . see claim 23 of Guyer.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 8 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori et al. in view of the publication by the Choroidal Neovascularization Prevention Trail Group "Laser Treatment in Eyes with Large Drusen: Short-term Effects Seen in a Pilot randomized Clinical Trial," *Arch. Ophthalmol.*, February, 2001; 119: 198-207.

Mori et al., described above, do not the number of laser shots/spots as recited in the claims. However, the publication by the Choroidal Neovascularization Prevention Trail Group clearly teaches that the number of laser shots/spots varies depending on the desired results. Thus, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to modify Mori et al. in view of the publication by the

Choroidal Neovascularization Prevention Trail Group, and increase the treatment shots/spots in order to provide the desired results.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See the following references:

U.S. Patent No. 5,935,942 to Zeimer; U.S. Patent No. 6,162,242 to Peyman; U.S. Patent No. 6,607,522 B1 to Hamblin et al.; and U.S. Patent No. 6,524,330 B1 to Khoobehi et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ahmed M Farah whose telephone number is (703) 305-5787. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Linda C.M DVorak can be reached on (703) 308-0994. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-0758.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3590.



A. Farah

12/15/2003